

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 116

Condemning the arrest and detention of 13 Iranian Jews accused of espionage.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 10, 1999

Mr. FITZGERALD submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

Condemning the arrest and detention of 13 Iranian Jews accused of espionage.

Whereas 13 Iranian Jews were arrested on accusation of espionage, and have been detained since April, 1999;

Whereas the United States and Israel have dismissed the charges as false, denying any connection to the detainees;

Whereas Germany, as the current president of the European Union, has expressed its deep concern at the arrest of the 13 Iranian Jews, and Joschka Fischer, German Foreign Minister, has expressed his deep skepticism over the charges, and has called for the release of the 13 detainees;

Whereas the 13 detainees are rabbis and religious teachers,
 living in a Jewish community in a southern province of
 Iran, with no apparent ties to any type of espionage;

Whereas more than half the Iranian Jews have been forced
 to leave the country, and five Jews have been executed
 by Iranian authorities over the past five years, without
 receiving a trial;

Whereas Iran hanged two people convicted of spying for
 Israel and the U.S. in 1997, which implies impending
 danger for these 13 prisoners; and

Whereas espionage is punishable by death in Iran: Now,
 therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) condemns the arrest and detention of 13
 3 Iranian Jews accused of spying for the United
 4 States and Israel; and

5 (2) calls upon the Iranian authorities to release
 6 these individuals immediately and without harm.

7 (3) calls upon the Iranian authorities to provide
 8 internationally accepted legal protections to all its
 9 citizens, regardless of their status or position.

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